

## Record attendance at Martin Luther King, Jr. events on School of Mines campus

Breakfast for faculty, staff acknowledges leaders Evening celebration draws 400

**David Sommer**  
Staff Writer

"Dr. Martin Luther King united the conscience of my generation," said Dr. Myles "Bill" Scoggins, President of the Colorado School of Mines. "His thoughts resonated through the broad cross sections of our nation."

On the morning of January 21, members of the faculty and staff on

called for peace and the rights of all."

Scoggins recalled the story of the Little Rock Nine and the great changes that soon followed. "They divided the social fabric."

Friends fought on ideology, parted ways because one thought differently than the other. The desire for equality and fraternity conflicted with the habits of segregation. And above it all, King's voice resonated in acceptance for all men and all ideas. In the end, the only idea that counted, the only belief at the center of it all, was tolerance. "King's message still permeates an era of

The event continued by recognizing certain members of the staff and faculty who went beyond the call to promote tolerance and diversity on campus. Leslie Olson was recognized for her work with international students and in her contribution to the success of International Day. Roz Yocom was noted for her involvement in Sigma Lambda and its support of the gay and lesbian population. Scott Cowley was distinguished for his chemistry magic show, intended to promote interest in math and science among Denver's youth.

The program concluded with stories of tolerance and the epochal civil rights movement. Staff and faculty members shared personal

**Zach Aman**  
Editor-in-Chief

Last Monday, a record was set in Friedhoff Hall of Colorado School of Mines.

CSM's Martin Luther King, Jr. Evening Celebration has a historical average of less than 100 attendees. The 2008 Celebration, however, brought well over 400

mittee member Andrea Morgan said, "This was, by far, one of the best MLK-days we've ever had."



**Recognizing Greatness:** (from left to right) Professor Scott Cowley, Leslie Olson, and Roz Yocom were recognized for their positive impact on the CSM community.

the CSM campus gathered in the student center ballrooms for a celebration of the life of Martin Luther King. In the eyes of attendees, it was a time of reflection, a time to look back, and a time to ponder the events hallowed by the day.

Scoggins remembered the times he lived through and the place King had in them. "King spoke of justice and brotherhood," and it was not just the justice of one man or one race. It was the justice of all men. "His message was broader than civil rights. It

globalization," said Scoggins. President Scoggins left the stage to loud applause.

experiences with racism and tolerance and the spirit of King cut a soft undercurrent beneath it all.



PATRICK BESEDA / OREDIGGER

**An Astounding Performance:** Singers Amanda Ray, left, and Jahi Simbai, right, wow the audience with their non-stop grooves.

students, staff, faculty, administration, and community members together to celebrate the dreams and ideals of arguably one of the most influential leaders in modern history.

The event was sponsored by the President's Committee on Diversity. Committee chair Maureen Durkin, who works in the Office of Planning and Policy Analysis for the institution, said, "I thought it was an amazing event! The attendance was just so far beyond what I expected." Com-

"Many thanks to Toni Lefton and her poetry class, James Reeves, and Shane and Jahi from Reverb and the Verse for their participation and wonderful performances," Durkin said.

Attendees also had the opportunity to talk with different service organizations throughout Denver. Jim Reuteler, a representative from Habitat for Humanity, believed the event was superior. "We've had students from the School of Mines go down to Mexico and help us build houses in the past." Reuteler agreed that, if the event is held again next year, his organization is definitely interested in attending.

Recently retired CSM counselor Terre Deegan-Young exclaimed, "My feelings that night were joyous. Walking down that long staircase, seeing tons of students and listening to Jahi and his band - wow! I was happy to witness the most successful MLK evening program that we have ever had."

Dr. Myles "Bill" Scoggins, President of CSM, said, "I am particularly struck by the relevance of Dr. King's message in today's increasingly globalized, international society and of the applicability of his message to us at Mines. It is fitting that we take this day to remember this great American and his fight for freedom, equality and dignity for all races and peoples."

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**Supporting the Cause:** Faculty hand out cake, left, to students at lunch, and a student, right, reads poetry to the audience during the evening event.

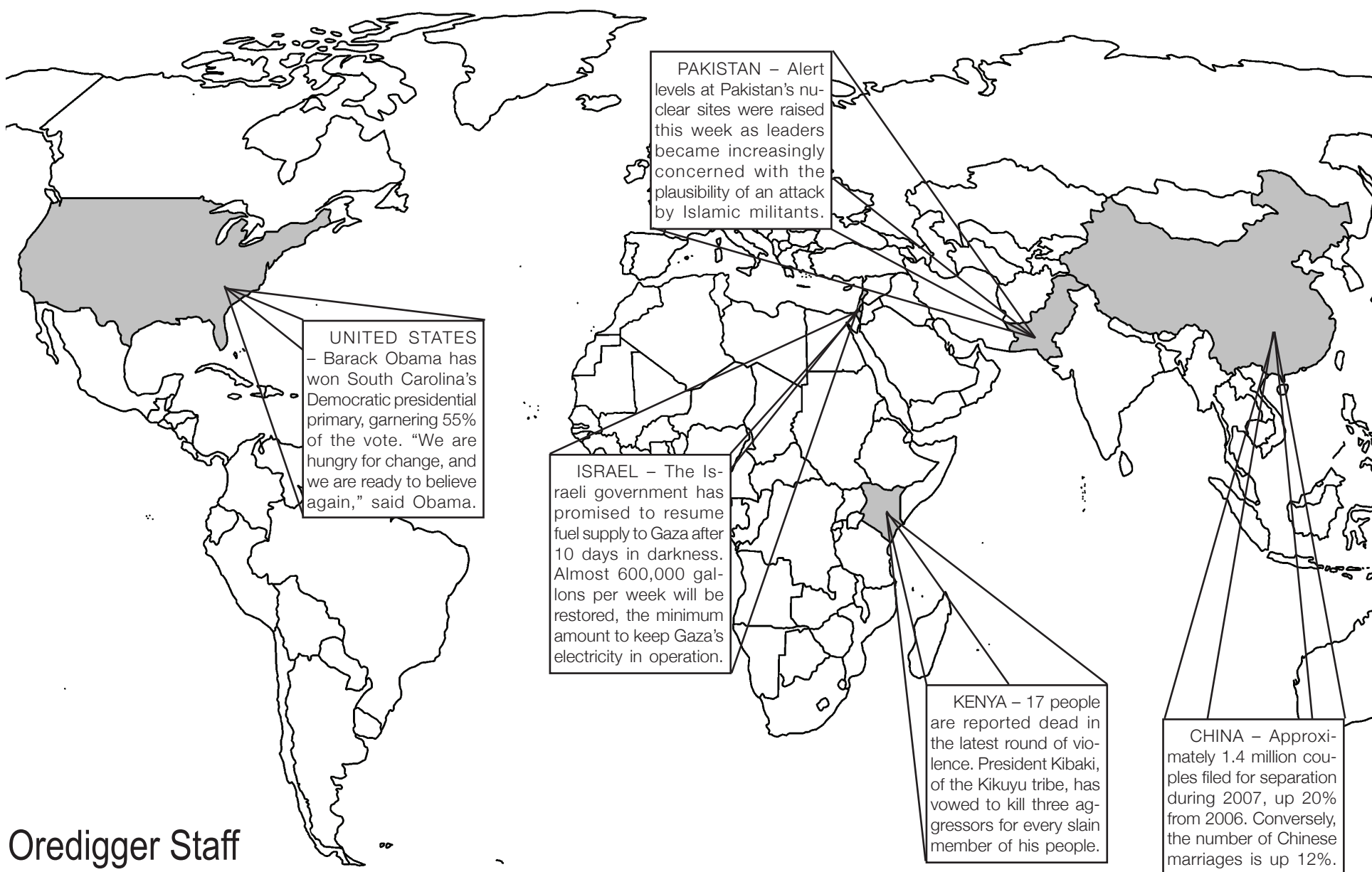


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# World News in Brief

Zach Aman, Editor-in-Chief



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## Students prepare to Focus the Nation

### Global webcast will seek to utilize America's most powerful resource

**Zach Aman**  
Editor-in-Chief

How many people, voices, or degrees Fahrenheit will it take to change the course of history?

At 6:00 PM this Wednesday in Hill Hall room 204, students at the Colorado School of Mines have the opportunity to view a one-hour webcast, entitled "The 2% Solution," that attempts to answer this question.

Focus the Nation, the webcast sponsor, will hand participants a fundamental problem. "Can we, as a nation, get on to this path and cut global warming pollution 2% a year for the next decade? If so, what would it take?" If this happened, the organization believes that the impact of global warming will be minimized to between three and four degrees.

Students are encouraged to bring their mobile phones to the webcast, as they will have the opportunity to communicate with students and experts across the nation. Participants from around the country will discuss possible global warming solutions, utilizing their phones as voting tools.

Alongside the webcast, Professors in the Liberal Arts and International Studies department at CSM have programmed three days of educational activities surround-

ing environmental sustainability.

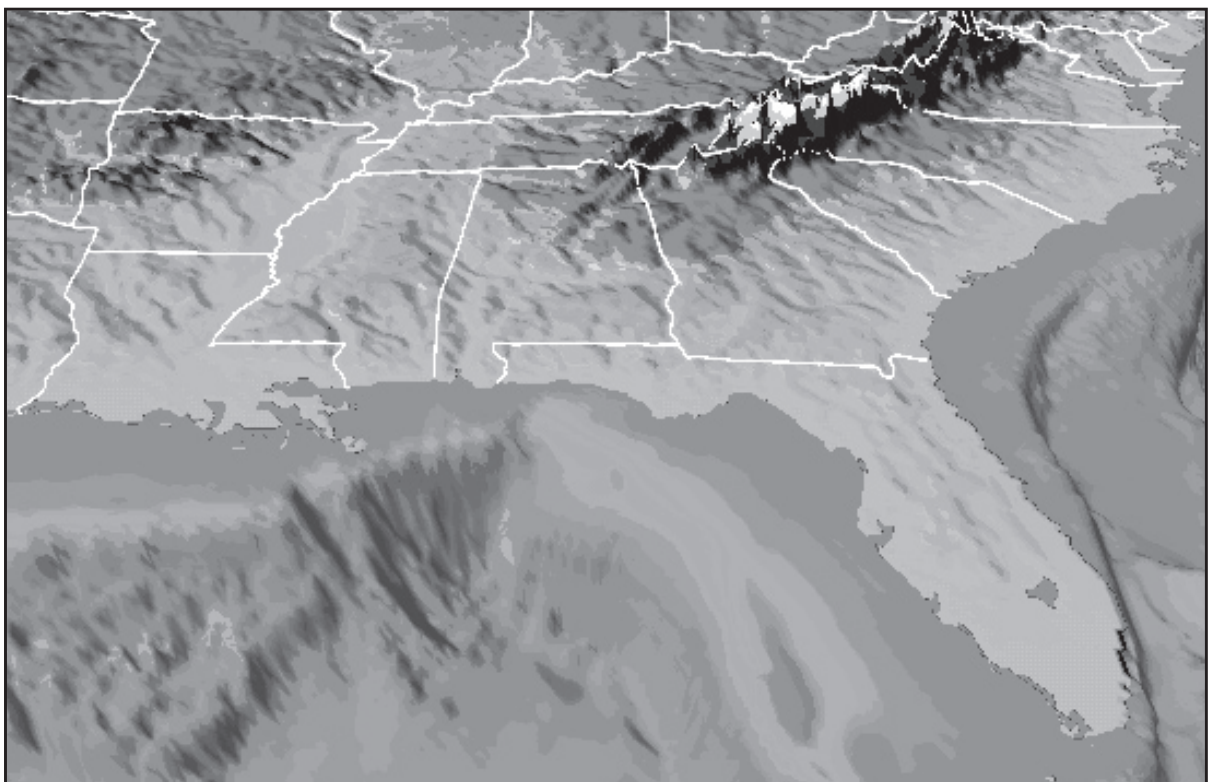
In the Nature and Human Values lectures this week, a Climate Change Challenge Panel has been assembled to share the science behind climate change theories. The Monday NHV lecture runs from 12 PM to 1 PM in the Green Center's Metals Hall and the Tuesday NHV lecture will run from

1 PM to 2 PM in the same location.

As a follow-up to the NHV discussions, students have the opportunity to view *Strange Days on Planet Earth* in Hill Hall room 204 this Tuesday at 7 PM. The documentary, hosted by actor Edward Norton, aims to connect many environmental mysteries and paint a new picture of the planet.

After the screening, Dr. Hussein Amery, CSM professor and local FTN event organizer, will discuss water and security issues with members of the campus community.

For more information on the events, community members can visit [www.focusthenation.org](http://www.focusthenation.org) or contact the LAIS department.



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**A Disturbing Difference:** Scientists from the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration project the potential impact on the U.S. if a 1 meter rise in sea level were realized.



# Cosmic rays give new window into the universe

## Physics department colloquium examines high-powered beams

**Matthew Pusard**  
Content Manager

"It's a way of looking at the universe that nobody has been able to do before," explained Dr. Lawrence Wiencke, an associate professor from the Physics Department. "Almost all of the observations of the universe have been made using photons at much lower energy than we are looking at."

Cosmic rays, which are composed of mostly protons and nuclei, have been detected to have energies exceeding  $10^{20}$  eV which equates to roughly the energy of a major league fastball. However, the cosmic rays with the highest amounts of energy must be observed indirectly because of low incidence. A specific square kilometer experiences a cosmic ray hit at  $10^{20}$  eV about once per 100 years.

"This is the first time someone has made a map of the sky with this many charged particles at these extreme energies," continued Wiencke. "Gamma ray detection, x-ray detection, infrared, ultraviolet: it's all photons and it's all at much lower energies. Even the highest photon observations are still more than a million times lower energy."

Wiencke gave a presentation entitled *Recent Results from the Pierre Auger Cosmic Ray Observatory* at the Physics Department Colloquium on January 22nd. Wiencke's presentation gave an overview

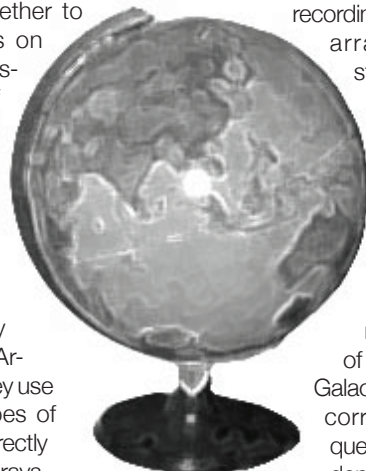
of the basics of cosmic rays, how they are detected, and the recent breakthroughs that have been made.

Over 250 scientists from over 50 institutions, including CSM, Colorado State, UCLA, and Penn State, are working together to make advances on the subject of cosmic rays. Much of the research on these cosmic rays is being conducted at the southern detector site of the Pierre Auger Cosmic Ray Observatory in Argentina. Here, they use two different types of detectors to indirectly observe cosmic rays.

The first array of detectors consists of plastic tanks filled with water spaced every 1.5 km. This array takes up an area equivalent to the size of Rhode Island. The tanks record Cherenkov light produced by charged particles that reach the tank, from the primary cosmic-ray interaction. The array records the footprint of a cosmic ray air-shower for future analysis. The other detector used is a fluorescence detector in which

the cosmic rays will trigger individual pixels (photomultiplier tubes) that record the passage of the particle cascade through the atmosphere.

The past few years have been spent installing the detectors and recording the data while the array expanded and studying this data. An analysis of data collected between Jan. 1, 2004 to May 26, 2006, suggested a correlation between the arrival directions of the high energy cosmic rays and directions of objects called Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN). The correlation was subsequently observed in an independent data sample



COURTESY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**Once in a Blue Moon:** strong cosmic rays - on the order of  $10^{20}$  eV - hit a square kilometer every 100 years, on average.

collected between May 27, 2006 and Aug. 31, 2007. Active Galactic Nuclei are a type of galaxy with active centers. A significant fraction of their total energy comes from the center of the galaxy. This energy is not attributed to stars, but could possibly be due to massive black holes at the center. The details of this correlation will be studied further as more data is collected.

The ultimate goal of this

experiment is to determine the origin and properties of the ultra high energy cosmic rays.

"The high energy [cosmic rays] are not coming from our own galaxy," said Wiencke. "Whatever is producing these things, it's really something extreme in the universe. As we collect more data, we expect to get a clearer picture of the universe."

After the presentation, a few CSM students had opinions about the lecture.

Will Rance, a Physics grad student currently working on organic solar cells, said it was exciting because "the school is involved

with something that's being published in science. That doesn't happen every day or every year."

"I think it's exciting for the school because it seems like there's a lot of opportunities in Colorado to work on this project," said Beau Winters, a senior in Physics. "It looks like a really interesting project and it looks like a precursor to other things

that might come to understand the universe better."

Mines is hosting an astroparticle physics symposium this May (go to <http://iaps.mines.edu> for more information).

# Examining climate change

## Van Tuyl featured lecturer Bob Raynolds

**Patrick Beseda**  
Staff Writer

"I don't believe in global warming," said Bob Raynolds, "I study it."

On January 24<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Raynolds, formerly of the USGS and currently with the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, spoke to an audience in Berthoud Hall as part of the VanTuyl lecture series. He spoke on climate change, and global warming. He informed the audience of melting ice caps and receding glaciers. "They are going back North to get more rocks," noted Raynolds.

Raynolds was not there to convince his audience that global warming is real or that doomsday is near; he wasn't there to instill fear in the listeners. His message was to the students and the instructors at this institution and universities across the country and indeed, across the globe. "The world is going to see some mind-boggling changes. I'm afraid I won't see them in my lifetime, but you will see them in yours," says Raynolds.

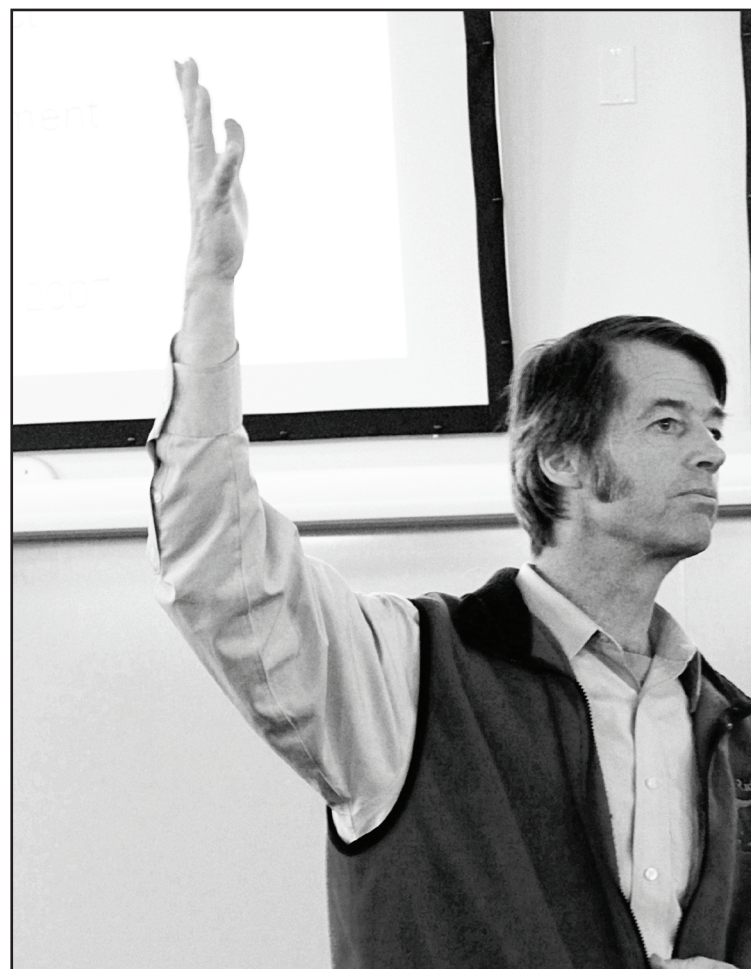
Raynolds made a call for reform in our school. "Change the curriculum," he said. "Invent a class on global change; the talent, the skill, and the knowledge is here. It just needs to be pooled into something multi-disciplinary." According to Raynolds, when Mines students are in the decision making positions, they need to be aware of the changing world.

On the topic of news coverage,

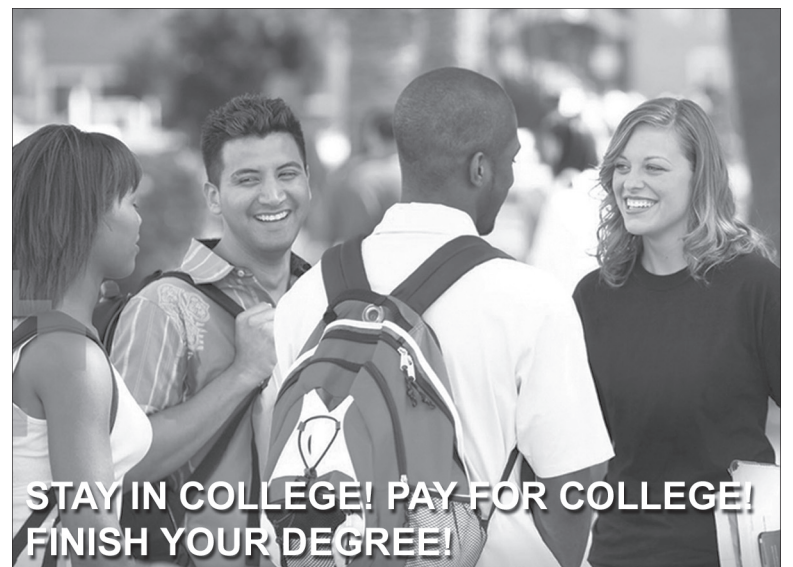
Raynolds said the media is poorly informed and, subsequently, they are poorly informing the public; it is up to the instructors and students to learn and to get the word out and

inform the people of the world.

The Van Tuyl lecture series, concerning geology and geological engineering, is on Thursdays at 4pm in Berthoud Hall 241.



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# Macworld ‘08: What hath Apple done?

Ian Littman  
Tech Break Columnist

Hello there. I’m Ian, a techie freshman whose name may well be plastered all over the web. You know, the second, third and fourth Google links? Anyway, to the story, since the Oredigger is paying per square inch and I don’t want to inflate costs... So Apple has this tradeshow in mid-January... As usual, there were a lot of people there, and as usual, you got the first-day, reality-distorting keynote from none other than the illustrious Steve Jobs. But what stuff did he pull out of his magician’s hat? In short, stuff that was predicted, mostly, but stuff that was still very, very cool. First off was the Time Capsule. Take Apple’s high-end high-tech wireless router, the Airport Extreme, and slap a 500GB or 1 TB (1000GB) hard disk in there and you’ve got the Time Capsule. Its main purpose is to provide customers with an idiot-proof way to back up all their Macs over their oh-so-fast wireless network, via Apple’s Time Machine program, which comes with any new Mac. But you can also use the Time Capsule as a regular networked drive, to store whatever you need to, whether you’re using a PC or a Mac. At \$299 or \$499 depending on the size of the disk inside, the Time Capsule is priced decently enough, and for what it does, it’s a pretty good device, though not what you’d expect from the folks that intro’d the iPhone last year. This was the only product nobody saw coming, or nobody I’ve heard of anyway.

Second, the iPhone got an update. You know, that hallmark device that you want and four million-plus people have? Yeah... but anyway, Apple introduced for real the software update that had been floating around the internet since a little before New Year’s. With the update, you can now bookmark sites so that they appear right on your iPhone’s home screen. You can also move the icons on your home screen around, or to different screens if you want. Best of all, the Google Maps application now uses a combination of cell tower and WiFi hotspot location to give you location capacity similar to GPS, except without waiting for satellites to track you down, and without using up quite so much battery. The iPod Touch was also granted these new features... in fact, aside from the phone program, all new iPod Touches now have the same applications as the iPhone. Your current iPod Touch (if you have one) can also get these features, albeit for a \$20 fee. The iPhone upgrade, on the other hand, is free. Third, Apple made their AppleTV product worth buying. Not only did they lower the price, from \$299 to \$229 for the cheaper model, but they totally changed the way you interact with the box. The menu system got a total face list, but, best of all, you can now buy stuff from the AppleTV, music or movies to be precise. Or you can rent the movies... a month or two after they come out on DVD... at prices that range from \$2.99 for an older movie in standard definition to \$4.99 for a new, high-

def movie. After you hit the Rent button, you get 30 days to start playing the movie, then 24 hours to finish, or to watch it over and over again. With an update, any current iPod, iPhone, or computer running iTunes can do the rental fandango. One last note about the AppleTV though: the updated software is free to anyone who has an AppleTV right now, and it’ll be out in a week or two. Fourth, Apple introduced the ultralight laptop that everyone has been expecting. Well, some people were expecting a tablet computer, but here’s the answer to all the expectation. The little guy basically takes Apple’s current Macbook design, shaves off all the ports but the headphone jack, video out and one USB port, tones down the processor slightly, eschews a CD/DVD drive, turns the computer into a totally closed box (you can’t even change the battery) and ends up with a machine that can fit in a manilla envelope. Battery life looks to be five hours for web browsing and such. The weight is a mere three pounds. The cost is a fat \$1799, \$1699 for students, to start. If you can afford it as a second computer, it’s awesome to tote around to class. As such, I’m getting it. That’s the long and short of what Apple introduced at MacWorld this time around. Check out [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com) if you want more info on anything above, and check back here next week for how to get all the music you want, for free, legally. Check out [yanntx.wordpress.com](http://yanntx.wordpress.com) if you want to hear me blather on between now and then.

# Gwyn Green promotes new bill More protection for abuse victims

Kyle Clark  
Staff Writer

After 67 years, four children, and nine grandchildren, Colo. State Representative Gwyn Green is still committed to working for the betterment of her constituency. **[Oredigger] What district do you represent?** [Green] I represent House District Twenty-Three, which encompasses Golden, Applewood, part of Fairmont, and North Lakewood. **You have a bill that you’re trying to pass, bill 08-1011. In your own words, can you explain what the bill is proposing?** I sure can. I call this bill the “Children’s Protection Bill” and the reason I’m bringing it forward is because some years ago I was told by the director of Rape Awareness and Sexual Assault Prevention that most of the sexual assaults on children are perpetrated by people they know or their families know. I thought if I could figure out a way to reduce that, I’d be helping those children a great deal. So, I tried to work on that, and this bill is what I’ve come up with. What it does is it lifts the statute of limitations on sexual crimes against children. It also institutes something called “a window” for people whose statute has already run. If they have been

assaulted as a child, they would be able to bring forth a civil suit. A similar piece of legislation was brought two years ago. Unfortunately, the day before the session ended, it failed. During the testimony and committee on this first bill, I heard time after time from victims that they could not begin to even recognize limitations and certainly they could not even begin to deal with the assault until maybe they were in their thirties, forties, fifties, or sixties even. This bill would give those people a chance to come forward against their perpetrator, even against any entity that protected the perpetrator [or] that knowingly placed the pedophile around children. If they knew he was a pedophile and they placed that person around children, they would be responsible and could be sued. It gives those people a chance to come forward. This bill will protect people thirty, forty, fifty years from now because it can take that long for them to come forward, and in the meantime, the sexual predator is still out there molesting children.

SEE “NEW BILL”, PG 5

# Who is Dow Jones? And why do we care? CSM Alumnus explains how media-hype is destroying financial integrity

James Larsen  
Guest Columnist

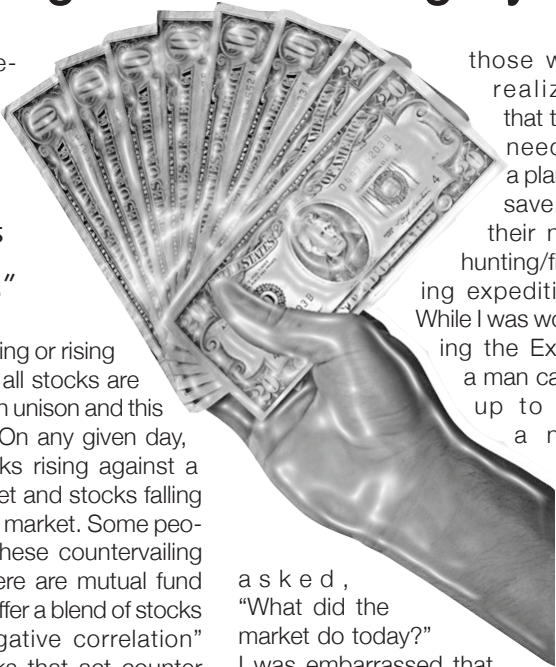
Last summer I had the privilege of participating in a Professional Development seminar sponsored by the CSM Alumni Association. The seminar included presentations by three Financial Advisors and was well attended by interested students and graduates. One of my fellow presenters was Jimmy Golden of Edward Jones. Jimmy said something I will always remember. He said, “My two favorite words are ‘Soar’ and ‘Plunge’, because that’s how the news media describe movements in the stock market.” I agree completely with his assessment. So, why do we report the Dow Jones Industrial Average information as if it were the entire stock market? And why do we fret when it falls and rejoice when it climbs? For one, it is handy to cite the changes as reflective of movement in the market; a kind of shorthand for those 30 second TV news bites. Our local news outlets don’t have the time to spend in reporting the detail in the way that a CNBC or Bloomberg might, and if they did, it would still probably bore the majority of viewers. But a little bit of history is needed to understand how the DJIA came to embody the general representation of the market. Dow Jones & Company is an American publishing and financial information firm. The company was founded in 1882 by three reporters:

Charles Dow, Edward Jones, and Charles Bergstresser. Like *The New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, the company was in recent years publicly traded but privately controlled. The company was led by the Bancroft family, which effectively controlled 64% of all voting stock, before being acquired by News Corporation. The Dow Jones Industrial Average in one of several stock market indices created by Charles Dow to gauge the industrial component of America’s stock markets. Today, the averages consist of 30 of the largest and most widely held public companies in the United States. The “industrial” portion of the name is largely historical as many of the component companies have little to do with heavy industry. To compensate for stock splits and other adjustments, it is currently a scaled average, not the actual average price of its components. The sum of the component prices is divided by a divisor that changes whenever one of the component stocks has a stock split or stock dividend in order to generate the value of the index. Today’s Dow Jones Industrial Average consists of the following component stocks: 3M, Alcoa, Altria Group, American Express, American International Group, AT&T, Boeing, Caterpillar, Citigroup, Coca-Cola, DuPont, ExxonMobil, General Electric (the only original company remaining a part of the index), Hewlett-Packard, Home Depot, Honeywell, Intel, IBM, Johnson

& Johnson, JPMorgan Chase, McDonalds, Merck, Microsoft, Pfizer, Proctor & Gamble, United Technologies Corporation, Verizon Communications, Wal-Mart, and Walt Disney. Historically, the Index has performed very much in line with the stock market; however some would argue that with only 30 stocks it is not a very accurate representation of the overall market. Some of this criticism is aimed at the fact that the DJIA is a price-weighted average. This gives relatively higher priced stocks more influence over the average than the lower-priced counterparts. As of November 2007 IBM is the highest priced stock in the index and therefore has the greatest influence on the average. Another issue with the Dow Jones is that not all 30 components open at the same time in the morning. Only a few components open at the start of the trading day and the posted opening price of the DJIA is determined by the price of those early opening stocks coupled with the closing prices of the remaining stocks that haven’t opened yet. This results in the opening price always being close to the previous day’s closing price and therefore not an accurate representation of the true opening price. Why does this matter and why am I telling you this? You need to know what you’re looking at.

When the media reports the Dow Jones numbers, it is easy to assume that a falling or rising market means all stocks are falling or rising in unison and this just isn’t true. On any given day, there are stocks rising against a declining market and stocks falling against a rising market. Some people seek out these countervailing stocks and there are mutual fund products that offer a blend of stocks having a “negative correlation” meaning stocks that act counter to the general trend in the market. You wouldn’t want to build a portfolio of just countervailing stocks or mutual funds that hold them, but you may want to have them as a portion of your overall allocation. What’s an allocation? It is a combination of investments that reflect your personal risk tolerance. Ideally, a good allocation lets you sleep peacefully despite market gyrations. So, why pay attention to what the Dow Jones Industrial Average does on any given day? I’ll relate a true story that happened to me when I was just starting out in the business. I was working The Sportsman’s Expo at the Colorado Convention Center. My company sponsored a booth to market our services to

those who realized that they needed a plan to save for their next hunting/fishing expedition. While I was working the Expo, a man came up to me and asked, “What did the market do today?” I was embarrassed that I couldn’t tell him since I had been at the Expo and had no knowledge of what was happening. I said I didn’t know and felt bad about what I perceived as a less than professional reply. Now the more I thought about that answer, the more I decided that I could have given that person a better reply. I should have said, “I don’t care what the market did today.” With a proper asset allocation, I truly don’t care what happens in the market on a daily basis. I can weather the “soars” and the “plunges” because the allocation contains the proper mix of investments that let me sleep at night and allow me the freedom to ignore the emotional tugs given me by the media when they report “The News.”





# Sacks Award

Recognizing work in environmental sustainability

William Everson  
Staff Writer

Environmental sustainability has become increasingly prevalent over the years, with businesses and governments spending billions of dollars to promote sustainable technologies. This increase in awareness has been ushered in by individuals who see environmental sustainability as a means by which humans can offer environmental stewardship while promoting economic development. One of these individuals is Colorado School of Mines's own Dr. Arthur Sacks, former Associate Vice President for Academic and Faculty Affairs. Sacks has given lectures internationally on the subject of environmental sustainability and continues to promote the concept at CSM. One way in which Dr. Sacks has encouraged sustainability at CSM is through "the Arthur B. Sacks Award for Excellence in Environmental Sustainability." According to the Sacks Award announcement, "The Sacks Award recognizes graduate or undergraduate students who have excelled in studying and raising awareness of environmental sustainability." Each semester, CSM Professors have the opportunity to nominate a graduating senior or graduate student they deem has excelled in the area of environmental sustainability. Once nominated, students are evaluated based on their educational and extracurricular contributions, with respect to environmental sustainability, by the LAIS Sustainability Committee: Professor Hussein Amery, Professor Sandra Woodson, and Professor Tina Gianquitto. The committee also reserves the right to not give out the Sacks Award if they feel the applicants do not demonstrate an adequate commitment to environmental sustainability. Recipients of the Sacks Award receive \$500 and a special recognition at their graduation ceremony. The first recipient of the Sacks Award was CSM Doctoral candidate Jonathan Meuser. Meuser is a Graduate student in Environmental Science and Engineering and received the Sacks Award for his work on promoting and researching environmental sustainability. Meuser's background includes being a member of the Students Council on Sustainability, research in algae use for chemical processing, informing students on sustainability issues through The Oredigger, and numerous other sustainability panel attendances. Birgit Braun was the second recipient of the Sacks Award for her work on environmental sustainability and commitment to education. Braun received her Doctoral degree from CSM in chemical engineering, graduating with a 4.0 and publishing works on sustainable processes such as ecobionanocomposites. Applications for Spring semester 2008 nominees will start being accepted in February.

# Green Tip of the Week: Moisture

Natalie Wagner  
Guest Columnist

This week's theme is Moisture. Here are some ideas to help you, your skin, and whatever is left of any plants in your living space, feel just a little less like the Gobi:

### Save the salt:

While it has been painfully cold, the magnesium sulfates that make the roads all white wreak havoc on our ecosystems. I understand lawsuits abound when there is ice on the sidewalks and roads and not everyone has cramp-ons or Yak-tracks, but try to get out and shovel the walk before you deal out a life sentence to all those things that live downstream from our little community.

### Think about the trees:

Does your skin get dry? Have you seen your toes lately? Do you even know what lotion is? Or are you one of those blessed individuals who came to Colorado from some humid place and have been slowly peeling away ever since? Well, no matter what your story is, the trees feel the dryness too. If you are out, enjoying the O<sub>2</sub>, give them some water as a form of "Thank You" (<http://www.extension.colostate.edu/4DMG/Trees/guidline.htm>). Deep watering the roots in the winter is really important and while a lot of students rent, you can talk to the landlord about it.

### Hydrate yourself:

Instead of that cup of Joe, make a promise to your self to drink at least one liter of fresh, clear water every day. It will do wonders for you. (I often have to throw something interesting in to stay awake for AEM, but tea and honey can do the trick.)

### Think Spring:

Ready for a little new growth, life, and color in your place? Go out and treat yourself to some bulbs (crocus, tulips, hyacinth). They are pretty cheap (\$3 for 10 at places like King Soopers), and you can impress all those "nay say-ers" with your green thumb. They come in pots; just add water (the directions are to add a little water everyday, but test the soil for moistness – if it is really wet, wait a day; if it is really dry, add some H<sub>2</sub>O).

Stay tuned for more tips next week on how to Reduce and Reuse!

# New bill to protect on the docket in Colorado State Legislature

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

If they have the window, it protects children today because we have people coming forward today who say that they were molested forty years ago and they can name the molester and the public knows that this person who was working as a coach, Boy Scout leader, psychiatrist is a sexual predator. So it's a very important bill.

**So, all are protected by this bill no matter when the assault originated.**

That's correct. By lifting the statute of limitations, they can come forward any time. Now presently, there's no statute of limitations for murder or forgery. Well, the effect of sexual assault on a child is much worse than the effect forgery has on someone. As damaging as that can be, you can only lose all your money. Sexual assault on a child is something that the child, if they grow up, needs to cope with, always.

**Currently, while the bill isn't in effect, what are the limitations for a victim of sexual abuse to come forward as it pertains to the law?**

Victims currently have six years from the time they reach the age of majority, eighteen. So if they were assaulted as a child, they would have until age twenty-four to come forward.

**Has there been much support for this bill?**

There is a lot of support for this bill from individual members of the community. When it was introduced, it was put in the Rocky Mountain News and most of the time they were very supportive. There is an opposition there also,

and the opposition comes from the Roman Catholic Church and from the insurance companies.

I think I can work with the insurance companies; they have a concern with doing away with the statute completely. They'd like a time limit so that it's easier for them to deal with the underwriting and how to determine a premium they need to charge people. So I'll be working with the insurance companies on that.

**As for the Roman Catholic Church, is there something specific that they're opposed to?**

They have said that their concern that this legislation would bankrupt them if it passed. That says to me that there are instances of sexual predators being knowingly placed among children in a Roman Catholic hierarchy. I don't know why else they would be concerned about going bankrupt.

However, they say there is no problem so I don't understand why they are fighting this. And in the event as far as bankruptcy, the limits are of monetary damages that can be received in a lawsuit and are very low.

The most they could get would be five hundred thousand dollars unless the court found that they were quite rotten in their behavior and they could raise it to seven hundred and fifty thousand. I understand that happens rarely.

I don't think the church needs to be concerned about going bankrupt.

**So they didn't give you a direct answer?**

No. The reason they have publicized as being against this bill is that

they would go bankrupt and they insist that they have no problem.

**Is there anything else you would like to mention about the bill?**

Yes. I have a coalition working with me, the Association for the Prevention of Sexual Assault on Children, the Colorado branch of the National Association of Social Workers, and the Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests.

They have been very helpful and working with me. I understand that there are other groups that are very supportive of this legislation, and I certainly hope it passes because

"The effect of sexual assault on a child is much worse than the effect forgery has on someone."

I think the children of Colorado really deserve this and need this.

**What else do you hope to achieve during your term in office?**

Thank you very much. I'm very interested in protecting children and protecting vulnerable people. Perhaps it's because of my social work background, but I'll be bringing forth legislation on protecting kids from sexual abuse in schools, protecting the developmentally disabled, and protecting from any caregiver who has anger issues and mistreats them.

I have already passed two bills. One would allow the Department of Health Care to contract with pharmacists so that the pharmacist can sort of oversee the client's medications. Right now, we have a law where they can do that with Medicaid patients. My bill expands that to people on

the programs run by the Health Care Policy and Finance Department. So the pharmacist would do things like if Mrs. Jones is not taking her medicine and she won't take it because it's very expensive, he would have the ability to call her doctor and maybe suggest another medication that the client could afford.

He has the authority to talk to the client about less expensive medications, the importance of taking their medications, and giving an analysis of the medications the patient is on because maybe the patient could get by with less medication. It's estimated that this program would

save each person on the program thirty percent on their medication costs.

I also passed legislation that addresses a problem with the hospital board at Colorado University Health and Sciences Center. The law was written to assign to the board a representative from the six congressional districts. With the growth in population, we currently have a seventh congressional district, which we are in. So the bill adds another member to the board to represent our district.

I have got one that protects the consumer against insurance fraud where the insurance company might promise to cover A, B, or C and the consumer ends up having A, B, or C and the insurance company denies them it gives the insurance commission the right to force penalties against any fraudulent behavior.

Gwyn Green may be contacted by calling 303-886-2951 or email at [gwynngreen@yahoo.com](mailto:gwynngreen@yahoo.com).



# Geek of the Week

...Susan Steblay, Sophomore:  
Chemistry and Chem. Eng.

**Melinda Bartel**  
Staff Writer

**[Oredigger] When did you know you were a geek?**  
[Steblay] When my nickname became "sponge brain" in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. But I've always been pretty booky.

**What did you enjoy doing as a kid?**  
I used to have a purse where I carried around a scientific encyclopedia. I took it everywhere I went and I liked to read it during lunch.

**What do you like to do on your spare time?**  
I play DDR every day. And I like weight training and hanging out with boyfriend.

**What's your favorite computer or video game?**  
I play RF online. It's a player vs. player game where you kill monsters for money. When you're good enough, you can kill other players too. There is a lot of magic and really cool weapons.

**How do you like to spend your summers?**  
I like to read. Usually I read about 20 hours a week unless I'm working. And usually I'll decide in the summer that I want to study a random topic of interest, so I make flashcards. I have thousands of

them on hand, just for my enjoyment.

**What are your favorite classes at Mines?**  
I like my ethics classes, like NHV. It's a big break from equations and memorizations.

**What organizations are you a part of?**  
The Catholic Newman Group, SNT, Circle K, and Taekwondo. And in high school I was in VOC [Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado].

**What is the geekiest thing you own?**  
I have a huge collection of Eyewitness books. And my pads for DDR.

**When did you know you wanted to be an engineer?**  
I knew I wanted to be a scientist in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. I had the coolest science teacher. That's when I started carrying around my pocket encyclopedia.

**What kind of job do you want to get?**  
My goal is to be the one collecting the data out in the marshes, waist deep in mud. I like the dirty jobs in the industry. But I also want to design makeup that helps with DNA repair. It could prevent skin cancer and be available for everyone. There are so many possibilities out there, so I don't know yet. I'd like to research is the bottom line.

# Soccer date auction

**Jake Rezac**  
Staff Writer

Nearly one hundred and twenty young men filled the seats and lined the walls of the Student Center on Tuesday, Jan. 22, to try their luck at the Women's Varsity Soccer Date Auction.

"We want to raise money for the trip to Jamaica," explained Ashley Laughlin, a junior on the team. "We will be playing games there, and hopefully helping out some local school kids."

Before the auction began, the team had no idea how much money they would raise. No one on the team could come up with a reasonable

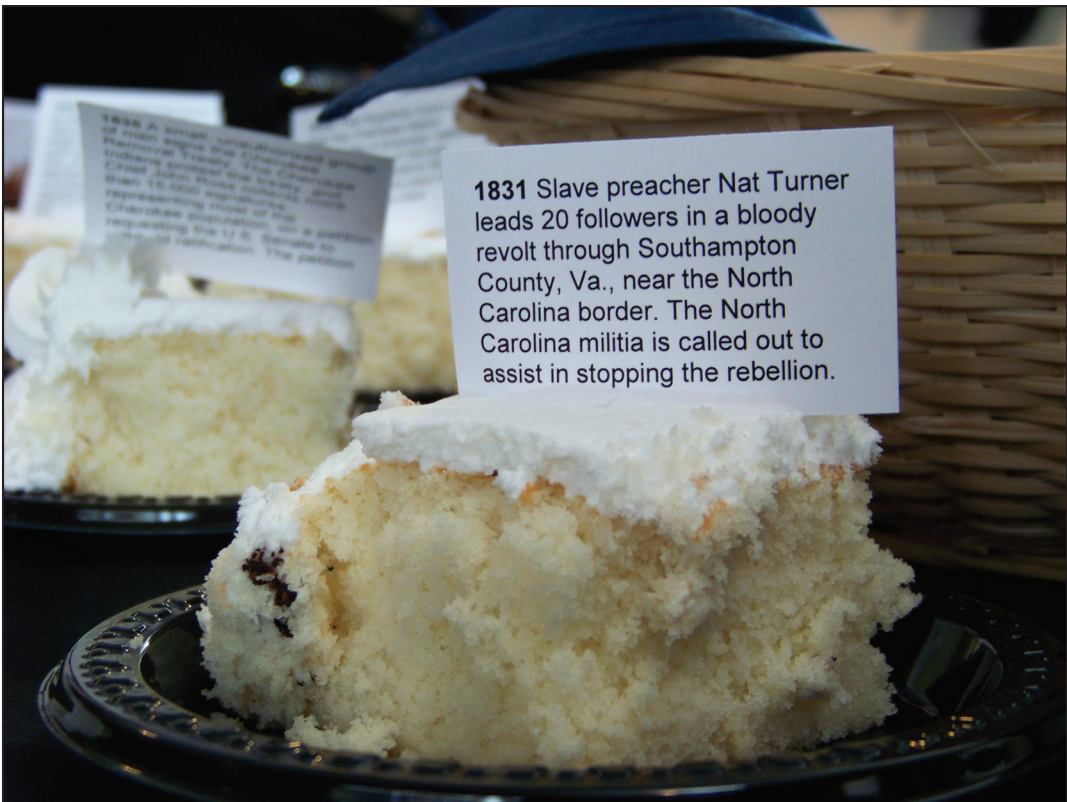
estimate. They were also nervous. "It's definitely awkward," Diane Wetzel, a junior on the team, explained. By the time the action ended, however, the team was ecstatic.

The auction began with a reminder: "Don't forget – there is an ATM machine downstairs." And after this, each girl was introduced and described. Bidding began at \$10, and was raised in increments of \$5. After some initial slowness in bidding, it jumped up quickly. The first girl got \$45, which was followed by bids raging from \$30 to \$120, with bids averaging nearly \$55.

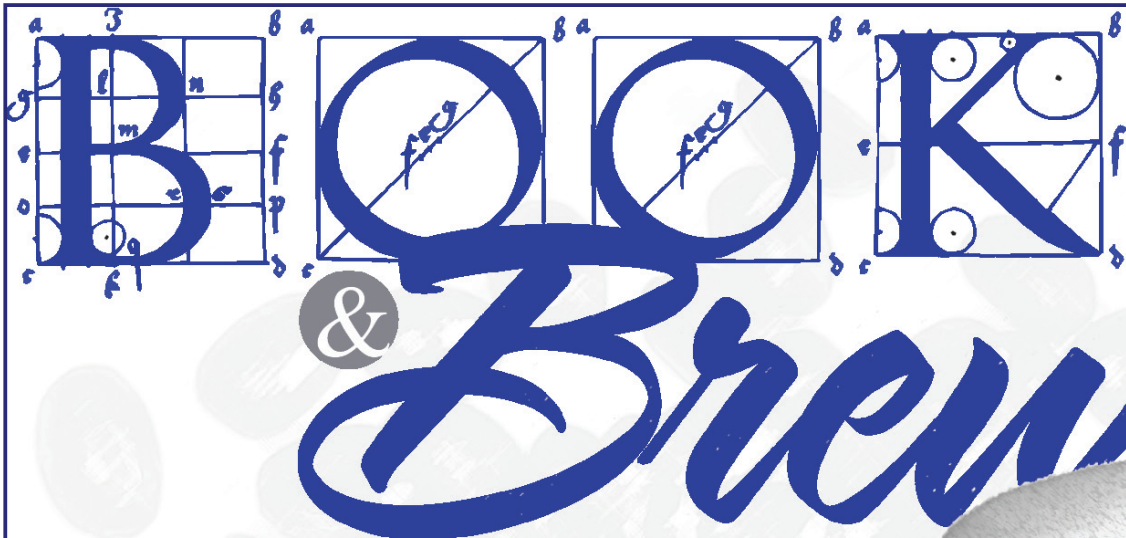
The girls were very happy with these results – their smiles could be seen across the room. The

bidders who won were happy too. David Kirschman, who paid \$55, commented, "I felt that it was worth it – she was cute and it was for a good cause." Xuy Hoang, who paid \$50, said a similar thing. "She looked pretty cute to me, and I thought 'why not?'"

The auctioned and the bidders will meet on an as yet undetermined Sunday to have a pot-luck dinner together. Although only time will tell if the date auction will result in anything more, it will certainly help the Women's Soccer Team go to Jamaica this spring. And on this note, Ashley Laughlin said, "if anyone feels like donating, contact the soccer office."



PATRICK BESEDA / OREDIGGER  
Happy Birthday, MLK: Cake was served with facts about civil rights.



at Arthur Lakes Library

- Poudly Serving Allegro Coffee & Tea
- Organic Espresso Drinks
- Hormone-Free Milk
- Check Library Website for Current Hours



...Get Your Coffee On



# SUPER BOWL



And  
so it  
begins...

## Patriots seek perfection in year's biggest game

**Matt Pusard**  
Content Manager

In a year full of shattered records, the New England Patriots are seeking to set one that cannot be beaten. That record is 19-0.

Only once in the Super Bowl era has a team gone an entire season without losing. That team, the 1972 Miami Dolphins, is considered one of the best in NFL history. But Miami played in an era of 14 game seasons and therefore only won 17 games total, playoffs and all. The Patriots are already past that mark right now, but it means nothing unless they win the final game.

In the way of the Patriots stand the improbable New York Giants. Last season, the Giants were marked as an undisciplined squad that was rebelling against its head coach. The quarterback, Eli Manning, was forever destined to live in the shadow of his older brother, Peyton, and father, Archie. The Giants' running back, disgruntled possible Hall of Famer Tiki Barber, was the crux of the offense. However, Tiki retired and proceeded to badmouth the team, Eli's leadership skills, and Coach Tom Coughlin's coaching. It was so bad, legendary defensive end Michael Strahan came very close to not coming back for this season. The Giants appeared to be a wreck after the 2006 season concluded, but they will play for the Lombardi Trophy on February 3rd in Phoenix, Arizona.

How did the Giants turn ev-

erything around? For starters, Eli Manning has finally turned a corner in his game. Even though his overall statistics for the 2007 season are not impressive (his QB rating was 25th in the league behind players such as Brian Griese, Kyle Boller, and Joey Harrington), Eli's last 4 games have been phenomenal. In those games, he's thrown for 8 touchdowns, 850 yards, and only 1 interception (giving Eli a QB rating over 100 in that span). His only average game in that stretch was the NFC Conference Championship on the frozen tundra of Green Bay. Game time temperatures were at 0°F and in conditions like that, average play by a quarterback is excellent. Eli played an turnover-free game, which is better than can be said about Brett Favre, whose interception in overtime resulted in an abrupt end to the Packers' season.

Meanwhile, a sufficient successor to Tiki Barber was found in the form of "The Football Frankenstein," Brandon Jacobs. Jacobs's upright and powerful style of running has proven to make him more susceptible to injury this year, but when he has played, he has excelled, accumulating an outstanding 5 yards per carry on average during the regular season. The Giants' change-of-pace back, Ahmad Bradshaw, gives New York a speedy second option when the time calls for it. During week 16, when the Giants were on their own 12 yard line, Bradshaw said he was going to score on that next play just seconds before he did just that, for his first professional

score, outrunning Buffalo Bills defenders left and right. With a combination of Jacobs and Bradshaw, the Giants have gained 318 yards and four scores on the ground during these playoffs. They will be a critical factor for the Giants in the Super Bowl because the Patriots' run defense is their one and only weak link.

But the biggest factor for the Giants during the postseason has been their dominant defensive line. This unit is led by the aforementioned Strahan and Osi Umenyiora. The duo, experts at applying pressure on the quarterback, accrued 22 total sacks during the regular season. For the Giants to have any shot at winning the Super Bowl, Michael and Osi have to hit Tom Brady early and often.

Brady, this season's MVP, racked up 50 touchdowns during his team's historic season. Granted, some of them were during garbage time when most other teams would have long given up, like during New England's 56-10 drubbing of the Bills, but a record is a record. But Brady rarely has had to face any pressure this season behind a steely offensive line. The first time he really felt any pressure was in the AFC Championship game when the Chargers hit Brady hard, causing Brady to throw three interceptions in his worst performance of the season. That pressure may have also knocked Brady out of the post season.

It is all purely speculation at this point, mainly because the Patriots are notorious for being super secretive when it comes to injuries, but

the day after the AFC Championship game, Brady was spotted out in public with his supermodel girlfriend, Gisele Bundchen, with a protective boot over his right foot. An unnamed NFL source has reported that Brady has a high ankle sprain, but it will not affect his playing status for Super Bowl Sunday. However, Brady has not practiced since that incident and it may not be a coincidence that this injury came during his worst game of his career.

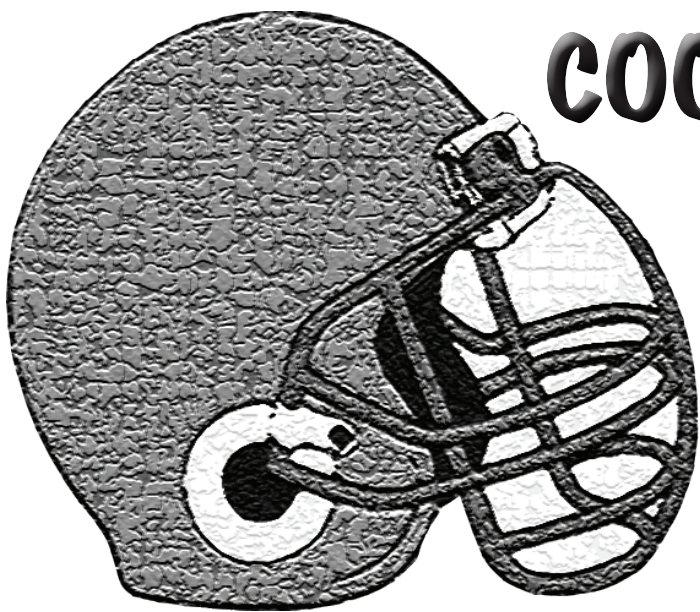
The Patriots are also facing another distraction before the season's biggest game because of the off-the-field problems of superstar wide receiver Randy Moss. Moss, who caught an NFL record 23 touchdowns this season, has been accused of committing battery against a female friend of 11 years. A restraining order has been filed against Moss and he has a court date about the incident on January 28. Moss will not attend the hearing, however, because he will be practicing all week for his very first Super Bowl. Nevertheless, he and Brady will be hounded all week by reporters about their respective problems during media week at the Super Bowl.

Financially, this Super Bowl is shaping up to be a very profitable one for the NFL. The Patriots have consistently produced high ratings this entire season as fans tuned in to watch them continue their historic run or finally lose their first game. New England is a very polarizing team in the NFL. This season started with New England

being caught videotaping signals against their week 1 opponent, the New York Jets. That act caused the Patriots to lose a first round pick and caused Coach Bill Belichick to lose an NFL record \$500,000 in fines. Meanwhile, New York is one of the biggest markets for sports and they have a natural rivalry with residents of the New England area. In baseball, New York and Boston have the most intense and heated rivalry in sports. Their fans are passionate and diehard and if that crowd translates into Super Bowl viewership, this could be one of the most watched Super Bowls ever. The most watched Super Bowl ever was in 1996 when 94.1 million fans watched the Dallas Cowboys beat the Pittsburgh Steelers.

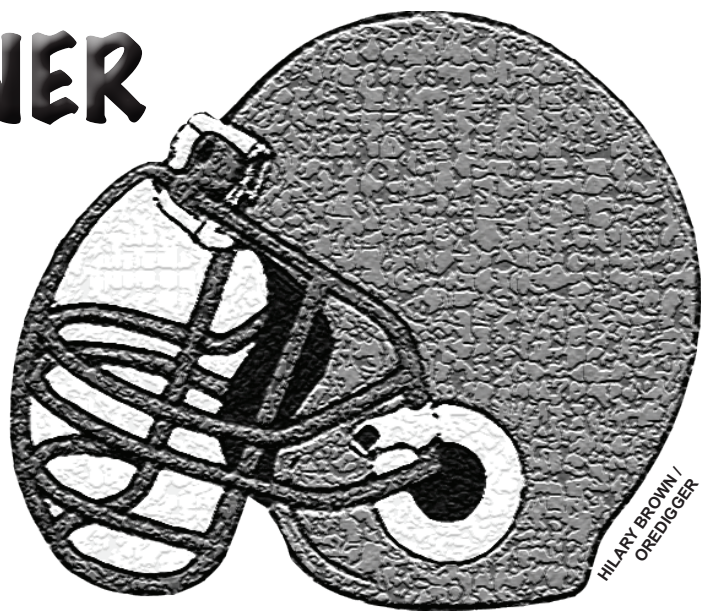
The Patriots are clear favorites to win the game, if only because they haven't lost yet. New England is a 12 point favorite in Las Vegas, but the Pats have only covered the spread twice in the past nine games. One of those games, Week 17 against the Giants, was a mere 3 point win after Eli Manning kept the game close with 4 touchdown passes. His lone interception ended up being the undoing of the Giants, but he gets a second shot at it next Sunday. If he wins, Eli and the Giants will go down in the record books as the team that stopped the second-ever perfect season from happening. If Brady and company come out on top, though, fans will have to seriously consider calling this Patriots team the greatest of all time.





# COOKING CORNER

## SUPER BOWL STYLE



### SUPERBOWL HOAGIES

Serves: 4  
Total time: 35 min

- 4 long sandwich rolls, split
- Deli meats
- Assorted cheeses, sliced
- Mayonnaise
- Tomato slices
- "Sandwich-cut" pickles
- Other assorted sandwich fixin's (no leafy vegetables, they'll wilt and be quite unappetizing)

Preheat oven to 350.

Place preferred ingredients on rolls, wrap individually in aluminum foil, and place on sheet pan. If you don't have much foil, place the sandwiches on the pan and cover them with foil. Place the pan in preheated oven, bake until the sandwiches are hot, 20 minutes. You will then need to let them cool for about 10 minutes, or you'll burn the whole inside of your mouth.

- SARA POST

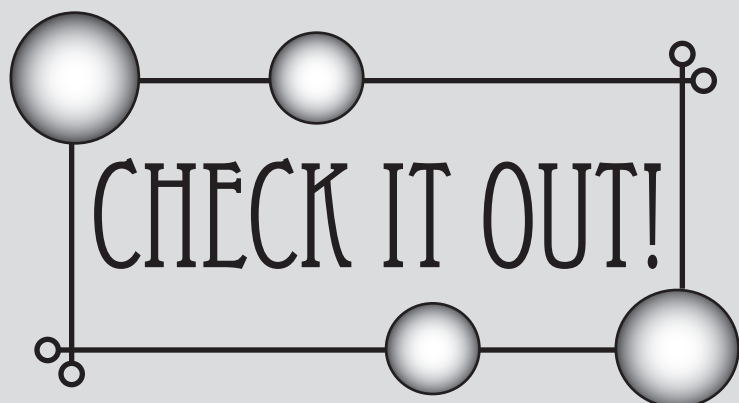
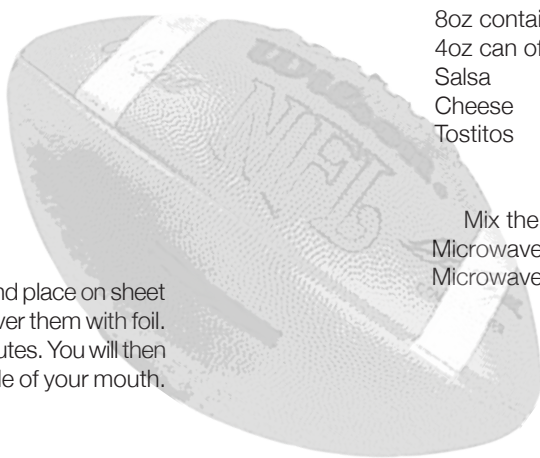
### A MAN'S HOT BLACK BEAN DIP

Serves: 4-6  
Total time: 7 min

- 16oz can of refried black beans
- 8oz container of sour cream
- 4oz can of chopped jalapeños
- Salsa
- Cheese
- Tostitos

Mix the beans, sour cream and jalapenos in a microwave safe bowl. Microwave for 3 to 5 minutes. Mix again. Top with salsa and cheese. Microwave for 1 more minute. Serve with chips.

- MIKE STONE



## MOVIE REVIEW

### The Ten on DVD

Hilarious and smart comedy at home

Greg Smith  
Staff Writer

It's probably safe to say that few at Mines have seen *The Ten*.

*The Ten* is a comedy for comedy enthusiasts, from the director of *Wet Hot American Summer*, a cult piece that is revered by some as the perfect piece of comedic film.

*The Ten*'s all-star comedy cast will remind you of the TV show *Stella*, which earned cult status after airing for only one season on Comedy Central. The cast includes Adam Brody from *The O.C.*, Rob Corddry from *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*, Ken Marino, Ron Silver, Gretchen Mol from *3:10 to Yuma*, Paul Rudd from *Knocked Up* and *The 40 Year Old Virgin*, Winona Ryder, Michael Ian Black, and second-most-beautiful woman in Hollywood, Jessica Alba.

The idea of the movie is the simple. Paul Rudd's character "hosts" the movie and gives us a story for each of the Ten Commandments,

while simultaneously breaking most of them himself: needless to say, hilarity ensues. *The Ten* is a smart comedy that requires the right sense of humor – you'll know if it's your cup of joe pretty quick.

Most people have heard of Dane Cook, but that doesn't make them stand-up mongers. Comedy connoisseurs will know and appreciate Daniel Tosh, Demetri Martin, Jon Stewart, Jim Gaffigan, Dave Chappelle, Mitch Fatel and Mitch Hedberg. Of course, everybody likes *Dumb and Dumber*. If you like *The Ten*, then you can consider yourself a comedy enthusiast.

If politically incorrect Biblical satire sounds like it might clean your clock, *The Ten* is a comedy for comedy's sake and should not go unwatched. If you see it and like it, be sure to check out *Wet Hot American Summer*. At the very minimum, go online and check out trailers for both of them.



## MUSIC REVIEW

### Andrew Bird 2007's *Armchair Apocrypha* timeless

Tim Weilert  
Staff Writer

In a music scene filled to the brim with singer/songwriters who experiment with new sounds, Andrew Bird stands out for his straightforward style. Some critics placed Bird's 2007 release *Armchair Apocrypha* on their top ten lists, a good reason to give it a listen.

*Armchair Apocrypha* begins with "Fiery Crash," an up-tempo number with energetic, slightly-distorted guitars, and Bird's subtle voice. "Imitosis" follows, but shifts into a European mix of strings and classical instruments, surrounded by slow Latin beats. Andrew Bird refuses to be categorized as he pushes into the deep middle part of the album. "Heretics" through "Armchairs" sound like a conglomeration of The Shins, Coldplay, and Wilco, but Bird still adds a component that is entirely original.

Radiohead-esque rhythms and falsetto vocals appear on "Simple X." The last part of the record is heralded by "The Supine," a baroque

mix of lin plucking, violas, and acoustic guitar. "Cataclysm" follows and maintains an incredibly stripped down sound. The album ends on an instrumental note with "Yawny At The Apocalypse," a mix of recordings of wild birds, along with a constant background of cello, ending on a natural tone.

As far as lyrical content is concerned, Bird focuses on traditional folk concepts. Many of the songs sound like conversations tempered with poetry. There are no overly catchy choruses on this CD, however this can be seen as a plus.

This is not the type of music you would expect to hear on a top 40 pop radio station. Taken all together, the disc has a timeless quality, heard through Bird's lyrics and choice of instrumentation.

This album is a refreshing listen for fans of more traditional modern folk-indie because Bird remains true to using natural sounds while avoiding too much experimentation.

"Many of the songs sound like conversations tempered with poetry."

"This album is a refreshing listen... Bird remains true to using natural sounds while avoiding too much experimentation."

## Strange Wilderness Preview

Zach Aman  
Editor-in-Chief

"Lately, you have these R-rated movies that are made for adults, because you don't have that kind of pressure to [prevent] someone who's 13 from being offended," said actor Steve Zahn in a conference call with several national collegiate news organizations, including *The Oredigger*.

"This is a very unique movie," he continued. "I turn down things I don't think are funny. [With] this one, I laughed my ass off."

Zahn's new movie, *Strange Wilderness*, is scheduled to be released this Friday. Carrying the tagline "this ain't March of the Penguins," the film has been rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "non-stop language, drug use, crude and sexual humor."

"There is absolutely no moral lesson in this movie," continued Zahn. "That's why I did it. The intent of this movie is to be as funny as possible at all times, even if that means the story has to not make sense."

The film focuses the two hosts of a reality show called *Strange Wilderness* – played by Steve Zahn and Allen Covert – who discover that their ratings are abysmal. In an attempt to rectify their show, the duo treks off through the Ecuadorian mountains in search of Bigfoot.

Visit the movie's official website at "www.strangewilderness-movie.com" for more information.



# Fool's Gold

“Snack-Pack in the Nick of Time”



## DATE AUCTION FIASCO!

Over \$2.4 million raised, 48 dead      Auction linked to human trafficking ring

**Tim Weilert**  
Dating Researcher

The soccer team date auction last Tuesday was a testament to the desperate state of the Mines campus. Nearly 3000 male students and faculty attended the fund raiser, however only 15 female soccer players were up for bids. As the event began, a strong police force was present, in case of emergency or outbreak of war over a woman. The first girl up was Jessie Howard, a senior geology major. The minimum ten dollar bid was cast, but quickly beaten by offers of \$60, \$70, 5000 World of Warcraft gold pieces, and \$680,000, which was the winning bid. Everything appeared to be running smoothly until Jackie Evens's opening speech. "My turn-ons are Halo 3, WoW, Linux, unnatural fluorescent lighting, LON-CAPA, and being a 'helluva engineer,'" said the full-chested, 20 year old, mechanical engineering major and swimsuit model. A fist fight broke out when two competing bidders yelled, "One hundred thousand dollars!!!" at the exact

same time. This small scuffle quickly escalated, there were 48 casualties. The survivors of the conflict were grateful for their increased odds. After the fighting had diminished, the auction continued with a tense atmosphere. Finally, all of the girls had been auctioned off, and the losing bidders took to the streets of Golden, rioting, burning down buildings, and turning over cars. Garret Hamilton, one of the winners, had this to say, "Well, I had to use my life savings, apply for more student loans, get a second job writing for *The Oredigger*, and sell one of my kidneys on the black market, but it was all worth it." Amanda Jenkins, one of the girls who participated in the auction had this to say, "I don't know whether I should be flattered or frightened. I guess it's good that we'll be able to go to Jamaica for spring break, now that money isn't an issue." The NSBE date auction, taking place on February 8<sup>th</sup>, is expected to draw larger crowds, due to the 2937 male students who missed their chance at winning a date from the soccer team. The National Guard will be on hand.

**Greg Smith**  
Human Trafficking Expert

"I thought it was strange that the poster said we could just buy these girls," said baffled sophomore Peter Abbot, "It just..." he fended off tears. "It just seems wrong." Public Safety has recently released a statement in cooperation with the Golden and Denver Police Departments stating that there is a suspected connection with the notorious trafficking ring *Human Trafficking Associates Ltd.*

"We don't have any solid proof as of yet, but we are working on some promising leads and we'll keep you updated," said Golden Police chief Warren Peace at a press conference on Sunday. Devilishly handsome freshman Greg Smith notes his surprise at the poster as well. "I was surprised when the notice for the 'date auction' said something about having 'beautiful girls' up for bidding. I didn't think that Mines would go to the trouble to import women from other schools, and I thought it was a nice touch."

The proceeds from the auction will be going to Abortion Medical Services in Denver. "We really think it is a great cause," said junior keeper Cassidy Pangell. "It just really hit home, you know?" Professional Date Auction organizer Amanda B. Reckundwith told *The Oredigger* that allegations such as these are not uncommon when an auction is organized. "It really hurts me when all of this careful planning and intense preparation is tainted by something as trivial as this. A little bit of human trafficking never hurt no-body."

## Radioactive Material Found in Mt. Zion

**Matthew Pusard**  
Irradiated Journalist

Mount Zion was closed off to the public this past week in light of the discovery of uranium near the peak of the mountain. Zion, which houses the campus's world renowned "M" (which was sold off to the University of Michigan last year), was first suspected of housing radioactive material last month. A group of hiking students observed some snow boiling at the very peak of the mountain and North Korean dictator Kim Jong II futilely attempting to mine ore a few yards away. Those were just the first signs. Each fall, students have to take a rock and hike up the mountain to deposit it onto the "M" and whitewash them. Scientists are now saying that this hike exposes students to enough radiation to give them "super smarts" as well as the occasional development of spider-like powers, radiation poisoning, and, infrequently, a third arm. The radioactive mountain may also have mutated a rabid squirrel into what became former Student Life director Bob Francisco. BlueKey, the group that maintains the "M," made an announcement

shortly after scientists announced their discovery. They claimed that the "M" is not electrically lit, but rather, the rocks glow on their own due to the intense radiation they have absorbed. In addition to glowing, last week, one of the rocks sprouted legs, ran down to the campus to the Women's Soccer Team Date Auction, and was sold for \$50. Its buyer, Patrick Snow, 18, explained his purchase. "Well, I'd never seen an actual girl in real life so it was easy for me to make this mistake. By the way, I think my ear just fell off." Scientists are debating about different ways to help protect Mines(TM) students from further radioactive harm. The leading proposal is to construct a giant lead shield between the campus and Mount Zion, ala Mr. Burns from the Simpsons in the episode "Who Shot Mr. Burns?" The only other proposal on the table is to encase the mountain in concrete so the radiation could not possibly escape. In order to do this, however, they must test it first. The leading candidate for a potential test site is the entire city of Boulder.

"One of the rocks sprouted legs, ran ... to the Women's Soccer Team Date Auction, and was sold for \$50."

**Cameron Frisby**  
Crime Lord

The world of drug running is a dark, menacing place, full of betrayal, shootings, and scantily clad women. However, a recent investigation into the Asian Triad (the infamous mafia organization run out of South-East Asia) discovered that the cocaine and heroin smuggling operations act only as a smokescreen for the real moneymaker, cashews. The Triad bosses grew bored with the tiresome daily drug operations and decided to step into the dangerous world of high volume nut smuggling. Unknown to most Americans, the government charges a 4000% tax on imported nuts to protect the interests of domestic peanut farmers. By using the smuggling channels established for drug trafficking, the Triad has imported five billion dollars of illegal cashews over the last two years. Consequently, the stunning profits are starting to lure other

mafia organizations to the trade. To promote the popularity of their "golden nut" the mafia bosses have paid different comedians over the years to make jokes centered around the cashew. Sales of cashews have skyrocketed after Seinfeld and later Dane Cook integrated the humble nut into their routines. When you next find yourself at a comedy show, keep your eyes peeled for the shady businessmen sitting in the dark corner. Shockingly enough, a few cashew addicts were spotted at the recent CSM Soccer Date auction. The speed with which the addiction is spreading frightens local law enforcement. A recent account from a recovering drug and cashew user reveals the subtle link between cocaine and cashews:

"One day I was going to my dealer to get a couple of lines of coke, and the next thing I knew I was eating a low fat, high protein cashew diet. They started me out with a few sunflower seeds now and again, but that was the 'gateway food'." "Escalation occurred quickly as I was brought into the rampant land of dry roasted then honey roasted peanuts. In two short months the dealers had me shaking in the local crack house, waiting for my next cashew fix." Shocking, but true. The next time that you dine on the perfection that is a cashew, I hope you feel guilty for fueling drug wars, inner-city shootouts, and dangerous loan sharks. Also, when you are tempted to go into business for the Triad just remember the three C's of their organization: Corruption, Cocaine, and Cashews.

"Shockingly enough, a few cashew addicts were spotted at the recent CSM Soccer Date auction."

### New Panda

Traditional Chinese, Grilled Vietnamese & Spicy Thai Cuisine  
Dine-In, Carry-Out, Delivery, Party Trays & Party Catering

Check Out Our Great 2-year Anniversary Rewards for Mines Students and Alumni!

**\*\*Buy 1 Entrée, get a 2<sup>nd</sup> 50% off\*\***  
**\*\*Get 20% off any Single Entrée\*\***  
**\*\*PARTIES OF 3 OR MORE MAY COMBINE THESE SPECIALS\*\***  
(Dine-In and Carry-Out Only, Students must show Student ID)

How does this affect your price? For example:  
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## A jaded paradigm

### Ethical framework limits soldier effectivity

JT Foss  
Staff Writer

Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Geneva Convention has feebly governed the convoluted moral implications of global conflict, contributing to the eventual abandonment of the brutal yet effective concept of “total war.” Its mention in political conversation skyrocketed dramatically with the inception of the Guantanamo Bay camp, at which the United States presently holds persons suspected of terrorism or known to be associated with terrorist organizations.

Ethical tensions flared when evidence of United States soldiers humiliating and torturing captured Taliban supporters surfaced in the American media machine. The scandal ballooned and exploded, the media often citing the implicit morals of the Geneva Convention.

The hullabaloo surrounding the scandal resulted in an outcry for tighter constrictions on American Soldier’s moral leeway. However, what must be sacrificed to accomplish a higher level of moral dignity in foreign affairs?

Soldiers abroad are held in the highest of esteem by their American countrymen for their careful adherence to the constraints of the Geneva Convention and similar ethical frameworks. As pupils of rigorous military training, they are continually introduced to concepts of ethical

responsibility on the battle field.

I believe these bleeding-heart approaches to modern warfare are logically ineffectual and function to render our armed forces unable to achieve their maximum potential. Were every soldier granted the ability to make moral decisions on an individual basis directly accord-

“How can a nation constricted by the weak and unnecessarily compassionate regulations of the Geneva Convention inspire fear into the tainted hearts of terrorist sympathizers?”

ing to the situation and objective, United States military involvement abroad (in Iraq for example) would be significantly more effective.

My previous statement by no means advocates the senseless slaughter of civilians or application of brutish torture techniques. Respect for human life should always remain paramount. My point is that war should be no less than war, and if factions decide to engage the United States in combat, they should expect all the fury and destruction this nation possesses.

The terrorist organizations we seek to usurp are willing to bypass every set of morals they encounter so that they might inflict as much pain on western civilization as possible. Our troops, however, are unable to respond accordingly be-

cause their actions are severely limited and handicapped by restrictions including but not limited to those stated by the Geneva Convention.

If it hasn’t yet become apparent, I support United States involvement in Guantanamo Bay; it violates human decency and principles of freedom, but for good reason. The Guantanamo Bay camp is a necessary implement useful in acquiring information from captured individuals possibly possessing valuable information regarding terrorist cells.

How can a nation constricted by the weak and unnecessarily compassionate regulations of the Geneva Convention inspire fear into the tainted hearts of terrorist sympathizers? They are willing to end their own lives so that innocent Americans die - why should we not be able to use whatever interrogation methods necessary to acquire preeminent information concerning potential demonstrations of terrorism?

Fear used to be an effective tool of war, and is an effective tool of organizations like Al Qaeda. As Americans, we ride our high horses and pride ourselves in being “better” than the rest of the world. I say nuts to that.

We will never win the war on terrorism if we limit our options of action to include only universally morally acceptable maneuvers. Disregard the Geneva Convention and similar ethical frameworks, and we will strike fear into the hearts of our enemies. The time has come for change.



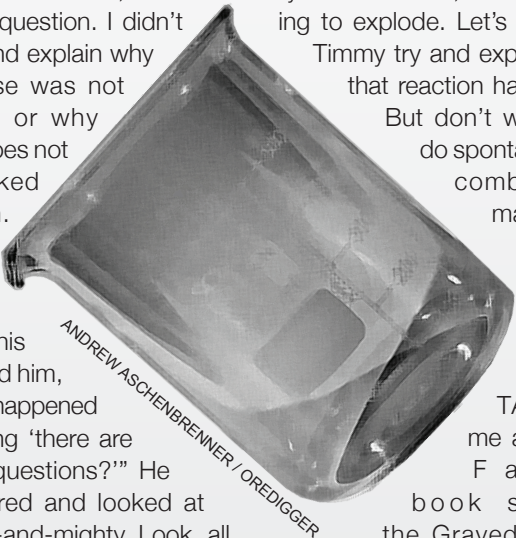
You people piss me off. There is nothing I can say in any of my classes without some lagoon creature sitting in the front row standing up, fixing his glasses and starting off with, “Well, actually...” I had this kid explain to me why I was wrong in asking a question. It wasn’t a dumbass question, I just didn’t know. I asked an honest question that the teacher answered normally. Then, all of a sudden, little Timmy in the front row interrupts and explains why my question was stupid in the first place. Look, numb-nuts, it’s a question. I didn’t stand up and explain why the universe was not expanding or why evolution does not exist. I asked a question.

After little Timmy was done with his spiel, I asked him, “What ever happened to the saying ‘there are no stupid questions?’” He just snickered and looked at me all high-and-mighty. Look, all you front-row-brown-nosers, do you think it’s a coincidence that you are hated by all the other 57 rows in the lecture hall? I don’t care if the teachers share cool little stories with you about how they accidentally wrote in an “x”

instead of a “y” and that’s why they got the right answer. Laugh it up, because, sooner or later, you will have a teacher that spits a little too much when he talks or rips ass constantly. Let’s see how humorous you find that. Look, I’m sure that there are people who are completely non-brown-noser types and still sit in the front row. I am talking to all you little Timmy-types who think that the school is there because of them. And if I see one more of those type of people become my Chem Lab TA, I am truly going to explode. Let’s see little

Timmy try and explain how that reaction happened. But don’t worry, if I do spontaneously combust, I’ll make sure I’ll take a s many TAs with me as I can. Face - book status: the Gravedigger is going to improve his grade and start moving down rows in the lecture halls.

Sincerely,  
The Gravedigger.



## Blowback | US Middle East policy contributes to Islamic terrorist threat

Aleksander Pruitt  
Guest Writer

When discussing U.S foreign policy (in particular Counter-Terrorism), one could focus on primary topics such as the war in Iraq, Afghanistan, covert operations on every single continent [See Robert D. Kaplan, Imperial Grunts (a book suggested by our very own Army ROTC 400 class) for an on the ground experience of such operations], or even move on to more broad arguments, such as Interventionism vs. Noninterventionist. (I will refrain from using the term isolationist as both sides resort to labeling each other’s policy as such).

However, I would like to examine an issue which receives very little attention, and when it does so, it is painstakingly cringe worthy. That issue is WHY, why did the terrorists attack us?

It’s easy to identify how the U.S seeks to combat this threat or why the U.S perceives international terrorism as a threat. E.g. “The al-Qaida network has many of the characteristics of a “globalized insurgency”...

It seeks weapons of mass destruction or other means to inflict massive damage on the United States, ... al-Qaida aims to overthrow the existing world order and replace it with a reactionary, authoritarian, transnational entity.” However, when reading through government documents, I fail to see a citation of the motivation. (If someone can find it I would be most interested).

In the past, when I have asked this question, I have received two different responses (as the third is largely unknown). The first response is “because they hate us, because we are rich, they are poor, we are Christian, they are Muslim, we are western, we are advanced, they envy us, they are fanatical, Fascist-Islamist” etc. The second response I have received

is simply to completely ignore the question, and instead to rant about how we must defeat the terrorist enemy, even if we have to destroy nations, implement regime change (i.e. a more pro-western mafia - sorry I mean state) and waste around what, a trillion dollars on Interventionism? Now, if anyone can give me a response as to why they attack us, other than the above responses, and that which I will list below, I would be interested.

My issue with the first response is I find it extremely difficult to believe that a person not only sacrifices their life but also dedicates it to attempting to force the U.S. out of Middle Eastern affairs.

Yes, people can be fanatical, and can commit actions which may seem irrational. However, we share similar feelings towards other peoples, yet how often is force used or self-sacrifice (this is with regards to people in foreign nations, not those within our own state)? In addition, the response does not explain why they are fanatical, or why they

hate us. One is not born a fanatic with an inherent hatred of the U.S. It is instituted and bred. But why does this occur? What is the first cause?

Interestingly enough, the CIA (refers to the retaliation as blowback), the 9/11 Commission report, and Osama Bin Laden all share the same interpretation of the motivation: U.S Middle Eastern foreign policy. What encompasses our foreign policy that would motivate international terrorism?

Here is a non-exhaustive list of events prior to 9/11: Syria 1949 Coup, Iran regime change of 1953, support of Israeli expansionism (including events such as the Six day War and Black September, Operation Nickel Grass and our substantial military and financial aid in general since the late 1960’s), U.S intervention in Lebanon, U.S bases in the Islamic holy land (Saudi Arabia), and the U.S invasion and following decade of economic sanctions and interventions in Iraq. To put it simply, they are motivated by the U.S involvement in the oppression of Middle Eastern people.

So how do we rectify the situation? Well, the answer is painstakingly obvious. Cease any and all financial and military aid, not only to Israel but all other nations.

Cease to aggress against other countries except in areas of self-defense. Whilst the terrorists may have attacked us, Iraq and Afghanistan did not. It would have been perfectly legitimate for Congress to grant letters of marque and reprisal as the founders intended.

Now I realize that die-hard interventionist statists and Israeli sympathizers will find this hard to swallow, but have no fear. Israel is more then capable of standing on its own two feet. It is a nuclear power, and its history has proven that it is more than capable of handling an invasion of various allied Arab forces. And as for the War Hawks regarding international terrorism, why would they attack us if they had no reason to do so? That is, if we were no longer fueling the motive?

Reagan was right. We don’t understand the irrationality of Middle Eastern politics.



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# Duffy's Corner

## GOP "Tent" a three-ring circus

**Kevin Duffy**  
Content Manager

The GOP would have Americans believe that the Republican tent is large enough to encompass anyone who believes in small government. The current logjam of Republican presidential hopefuls would seem to suggest that the tent is really more of a three-ring circus. Unlike the Democrats, who seem to all espouse a similar message of secular progressive rhetoric, the Republican field is clearly fractured along ideological lines. The battle entrenchments fall along social, national defense and fiscal conservative platforms. With the race still largely open to the contending candidates, few voters who declare themselves to a particular aspect of the Republican Party are willing to compromise and back a party-unifying candidate. The underlying reason that many registered Republicans are not willing to compromise on their candidate of choice is frustration with the national direction of the party. This is not only because of the negative connotations of the past eight years – which even many Republicans are now willing to admit to – but also because of the fundamental difference of the three tenants of 21st century conservatism as defined by the GOP. To analyze the inconsistencies, look no further than the presidential race. Tent one of the GOP circus consists of Mike Huckabee and the now former candidate Fred Thompson who claim to wave the social conservative flag. As far as anybody can tell, this means staking the presidential campaign on opposing gay marriage, overturning Roe v. Wade, and claiming the earth

is 6,000 years old. While this might hold credence with some segments of the population, many people are unimpressed by the rhetoric. The little policy substance of their campaign focuses on primarily religion-driven social agendas. This is not to suggest that Americans don't hold deep religious convictions; quite the opposite is true. A majority, though, believe that religion is a private matter between the worshiper, the church and God – not a matter of social governance at the federal level. As the results of early primary states have proven, there is still a significant amount of Republicans who would prefer this style of leadership. In tent number 2, Rudy Giuliani and John McCain are fighting for the Republican's "National Security" label. McCain undoubtedly has more foreign policy experience than any other candidate in the race, but many fiscal conservatives balk at his record of opposing the Bush tax cuts and so-called collusion with Democrats on immigration and campaign finance reform. While such issues can be troublesome, this has not stopped McCain from winning both the New Hampshire and South Carolina primaries. Many argue that his cooperation with Senate Democrats makes him an appealing general election candidate that could temper abrasive partisan politics. Giuliani, meanwhile, has staked his entire campaign on the Florida primary. In retrospect, this is beginning to look like a poor choice as he is now polling third amongst expected voters. Like McCain, Giuliani enjoys great appeal with the national security crowd as the iconic mayor of 9-11. To garner any real support though, he has

the unpleasant task of winning the Republican ticket with so-called liberal social values. Unfortunately for Mr. Giuliani, social conservatives are not likely to budge when it comes to their moral convictions. Finally, sitting main-stage at the spectacle, is establishment-shunned Mitt Romney. He is in the center ring because of the economy, instead of influence from the media or the GOP. When Bill Clinton ran for office in 1992, he hung a now infamous banner outside of his campaign headquarters that read, "It's the economy, stupid!" It is no secret that Americans tend to vote with their pocketbook in sympathy with their convictions. It is a surprise that more candidates do not embrace the principle. Romney is the only candidate with both significant and successful business and political experience. If not for the tanking US economy, he would not still be a factor in the race. The fact that America is arguably in a recession only helps fiscal conservative voters back his campaign. As the race continues to unfold, recognize the ideological schism that the Party must face. The three tenants of Republican politics certainly make for an interesting election year, but the differences are only serving to highlight the GOP's weaknesses. Republicans will almost certainly still back the nominated candidate in the fall, but independents are watching the drama and forming their opinions now. For the Republicans to win in November, some candidate needs to fill the ever increasing void of traditional conservatism within the party. Without such vision, the Democrats may have already won.



## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Tax Rebates and the Iraq War Debt. The Federal Government Needs an Intervention. YIPPEE! I might get a \$300-\$600 tax rebate sometime in June so I can contribute to the great 2008 American economic turnaround! I know that buying a Jack LaLaine Juicer and those 3 pairs of summer shoes from DSW are going to bounce America right back up the charts into number one. USA! USA! USA!

Wrong. The Congress and Bush Administration \$150 billion stimulus package may not touch the nation's economic woes. According to the Washington Post, the rebate won't arrive fast enough to help the economy. "The shot in the arm for the economy does not directly address the problems of the sagging housing market, towering consumer debt, teetering mortgages and capital-short banks." Mark Zandi, chief economist of Moody's Economy.com states, "If someone could build the most appropriate stimulus package, it wouldn't be what we got today, but this comes close enough given the realities of the political situation. However, this doesn't solve the fundamental problem plaguing the economy." Or make any sense to anyone who is actually concerned with the long-term economic and political future of the United States.

How is the United States ever going to resolve a national debt in the trillions and continue to fund military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan that is costing American taxpayers \$11 billion dollars a month? According to Reuters, "U.S. government debt has skyrocketed to more than \$9 trillion, up from \$5.6 trillion when Bush took office in 2001. Bush has opposed paying the cost of waging war in Iraq and Afghanistan with tax increases or other specific offsets. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that just the interest payments alone on the debt will total an estimated 2.7 trillion over the next decade." Guess who is going to pony up for that intervention and rehab program?

This short-term, spoonful-of-sugar-to-help-the-medicine-go-down tax rebate was irresistible to the Bush administration and the status quo Democrats such as Speaker Pelosi in an election year. A president's legacy is at stake, the White House race is wide open and 23 Republican Senate seats are at risk. Let's don't alarm voters with any real problems. A 150 billion dollar tax rebate quick fix should hold them until November.

According to the Washington Post, consumer credit counselor, Gail Cunningham, spokesman for the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, advises people to save and pay down credit cards instead of spending more.

Cunningham said, 'It's very interesting to me that what's good for the economy could be bad for the consumer.' Interesting?! How about admitting to a national spending addiction, both personal and governmental?

So in June, you won't see me at the mall. I'm depositing my rebate into my Roth IRA so I can retire someday and make a campaign donation to John Edwards if he is still in the running. On second thought, I really do need those pink sandals and a purse to match and a new cell phone and ...

Wendy Shortridge, Campus Advisor, CSM Democrats

Open Letter to the CSM Community:

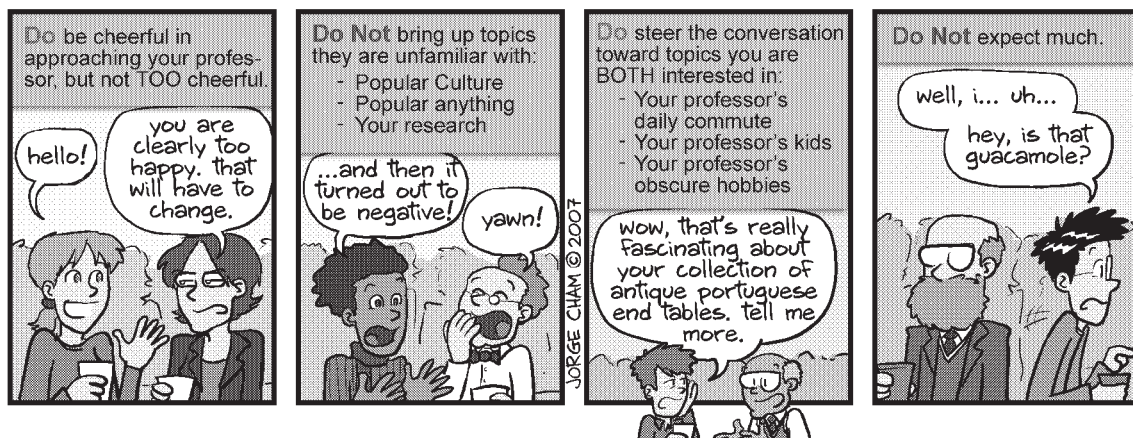
Colorado School of Mines is by any measure a tough institution that challenges its students, and through this can induce some measure of stress in students' lives. As if this stress was not enough for the student body, there is another cause of stress outside of academics that most of the student body has to deal with, the disorganization of the Registrar's office.

As I near graduation, my friends and I have had to talk to the Registrar's office a lot to get all of the requirements met for graduation. One might think that this process should be a simple one, just looking at a student's degree requirements, the classes they've taken, and giving them the go ahead to graduate (I know this is a time consuming process, and not the point of this letter). However, it seems that the Registrar's office has a problem holding on to and processing important paperwork for students here. Some of the employees in the office even go so far as to call students liars when they insist they turned in a piece of paperwork on time because, "their office would never do something like that" (lose paperwork). The problem extends to non-graduating students as well. Nobody in the office seems to have the same story and tells you something different every time you go talk to them. Students at this institution of higher learning should have a registrar that knows what is going on and can handle paperwork.

So in order to try and bring some order to this situation, I encourage everyone in the CSM Community, faculty and students, to bring this problem to the student leaders of the campus. Write down your story/complaint (be sure to be specific) and put it in the "What's your Beef" box. Maybe if enough complaints are received, something can be done to actually help students here, rather than hinder them.

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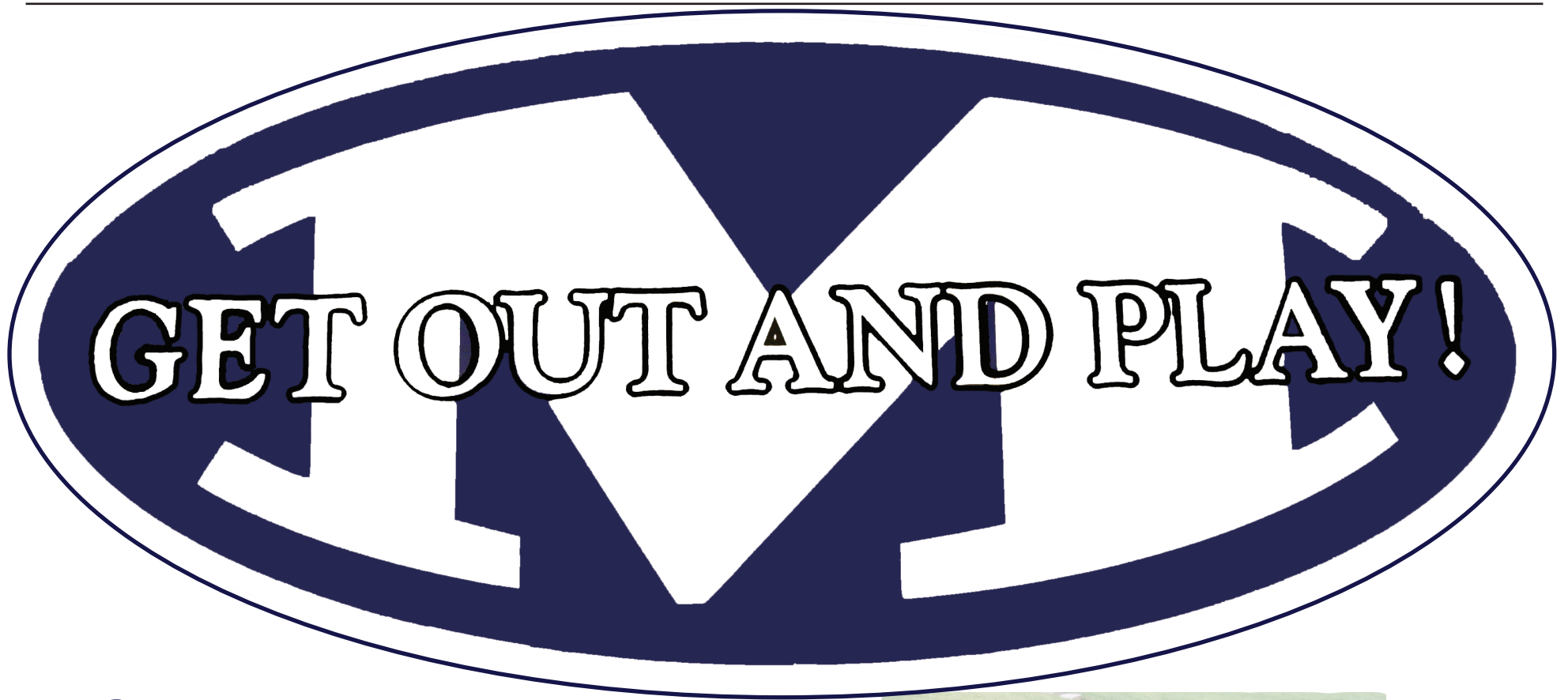


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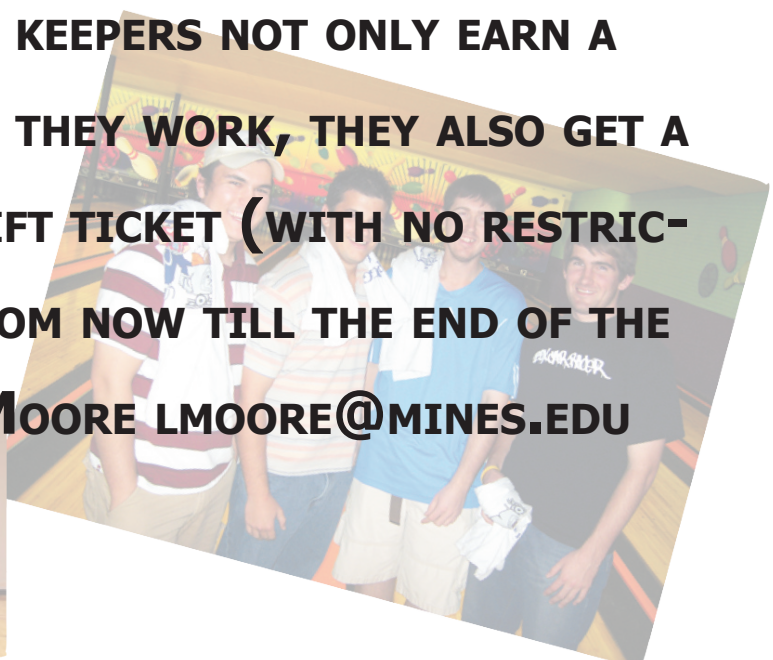
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